It is still early to assess any adverse impact on the off-take and inventory building. Indian steel producers are carefully reviewing the current international market situation. The Government in a liberalized set up does not interfere in the decisions at the plant level.

Identification of Talented Sports Persons

†5252. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to identify the talented sports persons at lower level and introduce new revolutionary schemes for development of their skill ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the said schemes are likely to be launched ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) to (c) The Sports Authority of India (SAI), implements a number of Schemes which operate to scout and nurture sports talent from all over the country, including the rural areas. These are, National Sports Talent Centre (NSTC). Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC), Special Area Games (SAG) and SAI Training Centres (STC). These schemes are basically meant for scouting and nurturing talent at lower age group.. Under these schemes the children in the age group of 8-14 years and 14-21 years are selected based on the scheme norms, and then scientifically trained . Moreover, the scheme of Centre of Excellence too, envisages induction of talent who show promising performance at the senior level.

The Government have approved a new Scheme of State Sports Academy, the main objective of which is to select the best available potential in sports between the age groups of 10-13 years as well as the top performers in State/ National competitions in the age group of 10-18 years and prepare and groom them over the years for winning medals for the country at the international level.

Statutory Youth Commission

5253. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up the Statutory Youth Commission at the Central level ;

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a non-statutory National Commission for Youth has already been set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Shri Balbir K. Punj, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) *w.e.f.* 15th March, 2002. The Commission has five members and one Member Secretary apart from its Chairman. The Commission is to study the areas of concern for the youth of the country (problems faced/likely to be faced by them), with particular focus on the problem of youth unemployment, suggest better implementation and coordination of the existing youth related schemes by various agencies while recommending new programmes and policies and suggest measures for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the new National Youth Polilcy.

(c) Does not arise.

Measures for Asian Games 2006

†5254. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India failed to get its expected position in Asian Games concluded recently in Busan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take some measures for better performance of India in Asian Games to be held in the year 2006; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The preparation for major multi-disciplinary events, including Asian Games 2006, is an on-going process. However, in the present sports management set up - at the international, as well as, the national level - promotion of sports, largely, falls in the domain of the Sports Federations.

In so far as Government of India is concerned, in order to prepare the Indian teams for participation in major international events, such as,

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.